

Roger W. Babson

Chain Store Stocks Discussed by Editor

Copyright—1954 Publishers Financial Bureau, Incorporated
 NEW BOSTON, N. H.—During a visit here I have had an opportunity to talk with various retired workers now living on pensions. One thing that interests them most is the future cost of living. They are grateful to their employers for their pension, but they wonder just how much it may always be able to buy. You cannot blame them for worrying, considering that a \$1000 pension received in 1900 will today buy only about \$300 worth of food, clothing, and shelter.

Money Versus Goods

Too many of my readers are thinking only of dollars, rather than of what these dollars will buy in the years ahead. Of course, the ideal thing would be for employers to promise their retired people a certain number of bushels of potatoes, pounds of meat, pairs of shoes, etc., in the form of a pension. Corporations, however, cannot do this unless they can be reimbursed by the Government. As our politicians are the ones who mainly determine the cost of living, would it be unfair to ask their Government to "give these pensioners insurance" against such unnecessary inflation?

Another possible answer would be to have pension funds invested in merchandising stocks. I have in mind super markets such as A&P, Kroger, American Stores, First National, Stop & Shop, etc., and the variety chains. These stocks could partly serve as a hedge against rising food prices and the cost of necessities. The latter could always be purchased from Chain Stores, such as Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Penney, especially from the modern variety stores which carry nearly everything necessary to living, other than food. The buyers for these variety chains hunt all over the world for the best merchandise at the lowest prices and sell it at the least profit; while the value of their inventories increases along with the cost of living. Thus, if pension funds were invested more in such stocks, the pensioners should be much better off if the cost of living should increase—especially in view of the "self-service" feature which was promoted by Herbert A. Hills Jr., of Wellesley, Mass.

Ten Big Variety Chains

Working people should also put a fair proportion of their own savings in these stocks, possibly an equal proportion of money into each of the ten. Knowing, however, that two of these, the McLellan chain and the McCrory chain, are largely owned by the United Stores Corporation, I can "catch two birds with one stone" by buying the stocks of United Stores Corporation which are listed on the New York and American Stock Exchanges. The Second Preferred sells around \$9.75 a share and yields over 8 per cent; and the Common sells around \$2.75 a share. When working people come to me and want stocks to lay away for their children and grandchildren, not for speculation, I recommend these United Stores stocks at the rate of one share of Common for protection with each two shares of Second Preferred for dividends. Note the following figures:

| | 1953 Sales | Current Market Price | 1953 Dividend | Yield |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|-------|
| F. W. Woolworth | \$718,870,378 | 42 | \$2.50 | 6.0% |
| S. S. Kresge | 387,299,151 | 38 | 2.00 | 6.1% |
| W. T. Grant | 299,767,741 | 37 | 1.50 | 4.1% |
| G. C. Murphy | 187,163,824 | 40 | 2.00 | 5.0% |
| S. H. Kress | 172,979,846 | 49 | 3.00 | 6.1% |
| J. J. Newberry | 171,163,900 | 34 | 2.00 | 5.9% |
| H. L. Green | 108,683,918 | 29 | 2.25 | 7.8% |
| McCrory Stores | 104,787,105 | 13 | 1.10 | 8.5% |
| Neisner Brothers | 66,742,814 | 14 | 1.00 | 7.1% |
| McLellan Stores | 60,672,811 | 24 | 2.00 | 8.8% |

Wartime Protection

There are several reasons why I like the above ten variety chains. In addition to their being a hedge against inflation and against a rising cost of living, they provide a geographical protection in case of World War III which big city stores cannot offer. All the above ten chains have their assets scattered throughout the United States. The United Stores (McCrory and McLellan) have stores in over 140 cities scattered in 37 states, while Woolworth has 1973 stores in the United States and Canada alone. Woolworth, however, has a large investment in England and Germany which World War III would probably wipe out. Although we may not now fear such a war, no student of history can believe that wars are over forever. Only a great spiritual awakening, of which I see no signs at present, can prevent the onslaught of such a war before long.

BOLT, FALL KILLS CATTLE

Bergoma, Italy—Lightning struck into a herd of cattle in nearby mountainous country recently, killing twenty cows. Ten others were killed when they stampeded over a precipice.

Speech Gives Thrift Notes

"Private enterprise means a system where every man is free to enterprise for himself," Harold Mutual Savings and Loan Association, said in a statement released this week.

He continued "it is where a man sees an economic opportunity and is free to make the most of it and, if he is successful, to reap the rewards of his initiative and industry."
 "All individuals," he went on, "who use the resources of the country's thrift institutions can call themselves capitalists, for the money they save in savings accounts, insurance, investments, etc., is put to work in constructing new homes, building additional industries and in research."
 The Wilmington Mutual Savings and Loan Association is a member of the National Thrift Committee, whose purpose is that of encouraging the practice of thrift.

Man's Car Robbed as He Steps for Lunch

An employee of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, Errol Hunter, Room 30, Plaza Hotel, was robbed as he ate lunch Monday. Hunter's car was parked in the 1600 block on Cabrillo Ave., and was robbed while he was in a cafe. Stolen was \$80 in commuter's books, a money changer with \$15 in change, a pair of sun glasses, and a slide viewer. The books and the money changer belonged to the bus company.

Piggy Bank Stolen

A piggy bank, containing \$3, was stolen from the home of Mrs. Patrick Sanders, 2441 1/2 Neece Ave., she reported to Torrance police.



BEAUTIES ON PARADE... Ten contestants for the "Miss Torrance" title which will be awarded to the city's outstanding beauty here July 30 line up for the photographer. Left to right are Shirlee Garner, Joan Davis, Sue Mayer, Jackie Galda, Donna McGarry, Beverly Blisbee, Barbara Whitely, Toni Florello, Norma Quine, and Darleen Craig.

Auto Parts Stolen

Two thefts of automobile parts were reported to Torrance police Monday. Joel R. Klink Jr., 1633 Post Ave., reported the theft of two yellow fender skirts from his car. Dr. Clifford Easley, Torrance Medical Center, reported two hub caps were taken from his car.

Thief Caught in Act

Frank Langley, 2649 Dalemead St., caught a thief in the act Sunday, and saved his car from being stolen. He told Torrance police that he saw a youth of about 15 starting to drive off in his car. When he came near and called out, the boy got out of the car and ran, he said.

MARRIAGE DROP?

Chicago.—Marriage licenses in Chicago during June fell to a nine-year low and the terrific hot weather was blamed. There were 4807 licenses issued in June, while in June 1953 the total was 5357. Temperatures of 90 or higher kept Chicago sweltering for 16 of 30 days in June.

UNUSUAL SIGHT

Valparaiso, Ind.—Firemen stood by idle as an old residence went up in flames. Curious passers-by were told that the owner had decided it was cheaper to burn it down than to salvage it. The firemen were there to see that nothing but the house burned.

Fuel Tank Taken

A metal butane tank and a metal diaphragm, valued at \$30, were reported stolen by Richard J. Puschal, All State Trailer Court, 1925 Crenshaw.

BEEES STING ROBBERS

Shelby, N. C.—Noticing that their neighbors were not at home, five persons decided to rob the neighbor's beehives. The five persons, with swollen hands and faces, were charged with stealing.

DON'T BE
UNHAPPY
 ABOUT PRICES
 BEFORE YOU BUY
 "SEE"
A & F SUPPLY
 PLUMBING -- ELECTRICAL
 CONCRETE -- CINDER BLOCK
 1306 PACIFIC COAST HWY.—LOMITA
 PHONE DA 6-3951 OPEN SUN.

Come See, Come Save at A&P!

A&P's LOW PRICES MAKE IT WORTH YOUR WHILE TO...

GET IN on these VALUES!

Yes, six days a week, 52 weeks a year, A&P's big values are at work stretching dollars. For lowering food bills—like raising a family—is a full-time job... a job we do by keeping prices low all year 'round. Come see... Come save at A&P!

Every Day Is Value Day
 IN A&P'S GROCERY DEPARTMENT

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Applesauce | Apple-land | 2 1-lb. 1-oz. cans | 33¢ |
| Clorox | Qt. Btl. | 17¢ | 1/2-gal. Btl. 29¢ Gal. Btl. 49¢ |
| Tuna Fish | Bountiful Flaked | Light Meat | 6-oz. can 23¢ |
| V-8 Cocktail | Blend of Veget. Juices | 1-qt. 14-oz. can | 39¢ |
| Cake Mixes | Duncan Hines | 1-lb. 3-oz. pkg. | 33¢ |
| French Dressing | Kraft Also Miracle French | 8-oz. btl. | 21¢ |
| Potatoes | Case-Swayne Sliced | 3 1-lb. cans | 33¢ |
| Mustard Green | Hemet | 3 15-oz. cans | 33¢ |
| Pancake Flour | Globe A-1 | 1-lb. 4-oz. pkg. | 19¢ |

Get in on these top quality produce values

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Northern California Bartlett PEARS | Tasty Thick-Meated CANTALOUPE | Sugar Sweet GOLDEN BANANAS |
| 2 lbs. 25¢ | 3 for 25¢ | 2 lbs. 25¢ |

U.S. GRADED "CHOICE" SUPER-RIGHT QUALITY

BEEF ROAST

compare and see if you don't agree A&P's meat prices are really low—just on a few week-end specials, but on items after items, day after day.

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| BLADE CUT CHUCK | CENTER CUT CHUCK | ROUND BONE ROAST |
| 33¢ lb. | 35¢ lb. | 37¢ lb. |

FRESHLY GROUND **Lean Ground Beef** Per lb. 32¢ **3 lbs. 95¢**

SUPER-RIGHT HICKORY **Smoked Picnics** Just the Right Size, 4 to 8-lb. average. **49¢ lb.**

Van de Kamp's Specials
 July 22, 23, 24

Swedish Twist

COFFEE CAKE 29¢ ea. (Reg. 37¢ ea.)

Deluxe Devil's Food SQUARE 59¢ ea. (7 1/2" value) 30¢ half

Van de Kamp's
 BAKERIES-COFFEE SHOPS
 1506 Crenshaw St.

CAT FOOD* FUSE 'N' BOOTS 2 16-oz. 25¢ NESTLE'S SEMI-SWEET 4-oz. pkg. 24¢

CHOCOLATE CHIPS MEACHAM'S For Hot Cake 2-lb. 29¢ 3-lb. 59¢

SYRUP CAMPBELL'S 3 15-oz. cans 29¢

TOMATO JUICE LINDSEY SLICED 3 3 1/2-oz. cans 33¢

RIPPE OLIVES SOFTASILK 2 1-lb. 39¢

CAKE FLOUR WYLMAR'S 3 3-oz. 29¢

LEMONADE MIX SYLMAR 1-lb. 17¢

RICE DINNER ALBER'S 2-lb. 27¢

BORDEN'S STARLAC 1-lb. 16¢

YELLOW CORNMEAL SNOW'S 7 1/2-oz. can 28¢

WATERMARD RICE SKINNER'S 10-oz. 16¢

MINCED CLAMS 1-lb. 30¢

RAISIN BRAN 1-lb. 30¢

PARKAY MARGARINE 7-oz. 30¢ 6 1/2-oz. 72¢

LIQUID JOY* 4-oz. 30¢ 9 1/2-oz. 72¢

DUZ DETERGENT* 1-lb. 30¢ 9 1/2-oz. 72¢

TOMATO SOUP RANCHO 10 1/2-oz. 10¢

Shredded Wheat NESTLE'S 18-oz. 19¢

DOG FOOD* SUB-CHAMP 1/2-PRICE SALE 2 2-lb. 53¢

POPCORN VENUS YELLOW 1-lb. 19¢

M&M CANDY CANDY COATED CHOCOLATES 7-oz. 25¢

Sauerkraut-Juice LAESTER'S 3 10-oz. 27¢

PEACHES STOKELY SLICED OR HALVES 1-lb. 17¢

ELASTIC LIQUID STARCH* 1-lb. 23¢

ROAST BEEF HASH NORMEL MARY KITCHEN 1-lb. 35¢

ORTEGA CHILIS 4-oz. 15¢

SMALL SHRIMP GULF KIST 8-oz. 35¢

BBQ SHRIMP BECKHUIT STRAINED 6 4-oz. glasses 57¢

DOG FOOD* CALO 2 15-oz. 27¢

Water Softener* White King 1-lb. 24¢

DELIRICH MARGARINE 1-lb. 30¢

LUX LIQUID* 18-oz. 38¢ 1 pt. 6-oz. 69¢

JAN-U-WINE CHOW MEIN

NOODLES 3-oz. 16¢ GGR

AUGUST woman's day THE A&P MAGAZINE NOW ON SALE STILL ONLY **7¢**

IVORY FLAKES Lge. 30¢ Gt. 72¢

AMERICA'S FOREMOST FOOD RETAILER... SINCE 1859

A&P Food Stores
 THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA COMPANY

PRICES SHOWN ARE GUARANTEED THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY, JULY 24TH

Frozen Food Values

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| LEMONADE | CAL FAME 4-oz. 10¢ |
| ORANGE JUICE | MINUTE MAID 4-oz. 19¢ |
| PINEAPPLE JUICE | DOLE 4-oz. 19¢ |
| TV-DINNER | SWANSON 12-oz. pkg. 79¢ |

TAVERN PALE EASTERN BEER * 2 12-oz. cans 27¢

6-Pack 81¢ Case of 12 cans 159¢ Case of 24 cans 299¢

A&P'S ALL VEGETABLE

Dexo Shortening 3-lb. can 79¢

1330 EL PRADO TORRANCE

All A&P Stores Closed Sunday PRICES EFFECTIVE IN ALL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STORES

| | |
|--|---|
| LIBBY DEVILED MEAT 3 3 1/4-oz. cans 25¢ | GREEN GIANT CREAM style CORN 1-lb. can 15¢ |
|--|---|

*Taxable items subject to tax